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K236

ACTION EAP-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	INL-00	DODE-00
	DOTE-00	PERC-00	PDI-00	DS-00	EB-00	FAAE-00	FBIE-00
	VCI-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-00	VCIE-00
	DCP-00	NRRC-00	NSAE-00	ISN-00	OMB-00	NIMA-00	MCC-00
	PM-00	GIWI-00	ISNE-00	DOHS-00	FMPC-00	SP-00	IRM-00
	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	CBP-00	R-00	EPAE-00	SCRS-00
	SSD-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	SCA-00	NFAT-00
	SAS-00	SWCI-00	/001W				

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8811

INFO ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIJING IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON IMMEDIATE

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 010298

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EAP/MTS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/15/2016

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, ECON, EAID, PARM, KDEM, ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIA WANTS TO ELEVATE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP
TO "STRATEGIC LEVEL"

Classified By: Amb. B. Lynn Pascoe, for reasons 1.4 (b and d).

B1

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3. (U) Per the request of Dr. Krasner, this message summarises the Indonesian views presented during the talks, and was not cleared by him. End Summary

B1

AREAS FOR ASSISTANCE

6. (U) Though optimistic about the state of U.S-Indonesian relations, Cotan cautioned that Indonesia was still in the midst of a democratic consolidation process. The average Indonesian remained skeptical of the GOI's ability to translate hard earned political freedoms into better lives for its people. In this respect, the United States could help lay the foundation for a stable, long-term partnership by intensifying joint efforts to improve good governance, eradicate corruption, increase and encourage foreign investment and trade, encourage global peace and security,

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and build the capacity of local governments. Indonesia would also be receptive to suggestions about how it could better position itself for assistance through the Millennium Challenge Account.

7. (U) Noting the presence of over a dozen U.S.-educated Ministers in the current GOI cabinet, Cotan emphasized one of the most important contributions the United States could make to the future of Indonesia and U.S.-Indonesian relations was through educational and cultural exchanges. Cotan argued for a more robust program, including U.S.-funded exchanges and scholarships for Indonesian nationals. In addition, Cotan asked the United States to re-evaluate current visa policies for Indonesia and study ways to simplify and expedite the clearance process. He asked that the United States devise a more sophisticated and balanced approach to visitors arriving to the United States with Muslim names. He said Indonesians

routinely were subjected to unnecessarily harsh treatment upon arrival to the United States, and noted he personally had endured such treatment from U.S. border and security officials.

B1

AREAS FOR COOPERATION

9. (U) Stressing the significance of resuming bilateral military ties, Cotan eagerly outlined additional areas for cooperation and partnership. He said Indonesia would welcome the opportunity to negotiate an MLAT with the United States, enhance cooperation on extradition issues, conclude a consular notification agreement and create the legal basis for exchanges of prisoners.

10. (U) Cotan expressed confidence the United States and Indonesia could continue as partners on terrorism issues. He urged that bilateral cooperation increase in such areas as maritime security; combating drug smuggling, piracy, trafficking in persons, proliferation of WMD and illegal logging; improving natural-disaster and pandemic response and developing an Early Warning System for tsunamis. Addressing

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specifically the question of trafficking, MFA Director of International Security and Disarmament Hasan Kleib thanked the USG for its continued assistance on trafficking issues and argued Indonesia's efforts to combat trafficking had not been accurately reflected in the most recent Trafficking in Persons Report for Indonesia (Note: Indonesia was designated as a Tier 2 Watch List country).

11. (U) On the subject of economic cooperation, Cotan articulated a desire to conduct an economic dialogue with the United States. He acknowledged it was important that Indonesia continue to tackle &pervasive corruption8 in order to enhance the Indonesian business climate and attract investment; Indonesia hoped the United States would continue to work together with Indonesia to this end. Addressing the issue of international trade, Cotan said the failure of the Doha Round had greatly disappointed Indonesia and would cost the country an estimated \$1.8 billion.

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THE MIDDLE EAST

17. (U) On the Middle East, Cotan said the GOI supported a two-state solution with Israel and Palestine living side-by-side in peace within internationally recognized borders, and urged a more assertive role by the United States in bringing hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah to a close. Noting the outpouring of support in Indonesia for the plight of Muslims in Lebanon and Palestine, Cotan said the situation had radicalized the public discourse in Indonesia and had momentarily given militant groups an upper hand. Cotan appealed for a more balanced approach by the United States to the Palestinian and Lebanese problems, rather than what was perceived to be one-sided support for Israel, to help Indonesia contain Islamic extremism.

18. (U) Cotan reiterated Indonesia,s publicly announced plans to mobilize an Indonesian peacekeeping battalion that could be dispatched to the Middle East as soon as needed. Cotan stressed Indonesia could contribute such a force only under Chapter Six of the UN Chapter.

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19. (U) U.S. Participants:

S/P Director Dr. Stephen Krasner
Ambassador B. Lynn Pascoe
Acting Political Counselor Daniel Turnbull
Embassy Notetakers: Eric Kneedler and Michael Turner

Indonesian Participants:

MFA Secretary General Imron Cotan
MFA Deputy Director General of Policy Planning and
Development Suprpto Martosetomo
MFA Director of North American Affairs Harry Parwanto
MFA Director of International Security and Disarmament Hasan
Kleib
MFA Director of International Treaties Arif Hava Oegroseno
MFA Director of the Center for Policy and Planning
Development - American and European Region Sjahril Sabaruddin
Political Counselor to the Indonesian Embassy to the U.S.
Arko Hananto Budiadi
Notetakers

PASCOE

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